THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Telecast of Regional Programmes

3593. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to increase the time for telecast of regional programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of Post Office in Uttar Pradesh

3594. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the areas of land acquired for the construction of postal office buildings in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years, district-wise;

(b) whether the acquired land is being used for other purposes; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The area of land acquired for the construction of post office buildings during the last 3 years district-wise in Uttar Pradesh are as follows :

Sl. No.	Place	Distt.	Area	Year
1.	Wadda	Pithoragarh	1200 m^2	1994
2.	Suhagnagar	Firojabad	850 m^2	1994
3.	Bageshwar	Almora	586.43 m^2	1995
4.	Tetari Bazar	Siddarthnagar	7967.84 m^2	1996
5.	Sirauli Gaushpur	Barabanki	1554.72 m^2	1996
6.	Ram Nagar	Barabanki	1554.72 m^2	1996

(b) No.

(c) Not applicable.

Extraction of Iron Ore Mines in Madhya Pradesh

3595. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of iron ore extracted each month from iron ore mines of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the royalty provided to Madhya Pradesh on iron ore during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase royalty on iron ore to State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) As per Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), Nagpur, the quantity of iron ore extracted each month, during 1996-97 from iron ore mines of Madhya Pradesh is given at Statement-I.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) The royalty rates on iron ore have been recently revised and notified in the Gazette of India, notification *vide* Part II, Section 3, Sub Section (i) No. 156, dated 11.4.97. The rates of royalty in respect of iron ore as per the Gazette of India, dated 11.4.97 are at Statement-II.

Statement-I

Iron Ore Production in Madhya Pradesh during April-1996 to March 1997 (Month-wise)

(Qty. in thousand tonnes)

Month	Production		
	Total	Lumps	Fines[1]
April 1996	1489	807	682
May	1395	764	631
June	1393	789	604
July	1220	658	562
August	1364	690	674
September	1299	664	635
October	1571	796	775
November	1393	769	624
December	1452	824	628
January 1997	1382	818	564
February	1305	712	593
March	1545	773	772
Total 1996-97	16808	9064	7744

[1] Figures relate to despatches for internal consumption/exports.